

Session 7 – I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life

John 14:1–14

Jesus' words invite us to consider
a deeper question:

**Where do we look for direction,
truth, and life when the world
feels uncertain?**



How to Use This Study

This series is designed to be experienced in two stages.

- **Personal Study During the Week**

Each participant reads the Scripture and works through the Study Guide before the group meeting.

- **Group Discussion Together**

When the group gathers, the Facilitator and Student Guides help guide conversation, reflection, and prayer based on the material everyone has already explored.

- This format allows the group to move beyond surface discussion and engage the Bible more deeply together.



Where We Are in John's Gospel

John's Gospel progressively reveals the identity of Jesus.

Each moment builds on the last.

- **Session 1 — The Word Became Flesh (John 1)**
- **Session 2 — I AM the Bread of Life (John 6)**
- **Session 3 — I AM the Light of the World (John 8)**
- **Session 4 — I AM the Door (John 10:1–10)**
- **Session 5 — I AM the Good Shepherd (John 10:11–18)**
- **Session 6 — I AM the Resurrection and the Life (John 11)**

Now we arrive at a moment of deep teaching. Jesus prepares His disciples for His departure and He declares:

“I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life.”
(John 14:1-14)



The Setting of the Story

John 14 takes place during the Last Supper.

Jesus has just told the disciples:

- One of them will betray Him
 - Peter will deny Him
- He will soon leave them

The disciples are confused and deeply troubled.

Everything they expected about the future now feels uncertain.



Troubled Hearts

Jesus begins with a command meant to calm them.

¹ *“Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me.”*

John 14:1

The disciples are facing fear and uncertainty.

Jesus calls them to respond not with anxiety — but with trust.

In the face of uncertainty and fear, the key is to remain grounded in our trust in God.



The Promise of a Place

Jesus answers the disciples' fear with a promise rooted in the character of God.

² *There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?*

John 14:2

**Jesus is not describing architecture.
He is describing belonging.**

**The disciples fear that everything they have built with Jesus is about to collapse.
Instead, Jesus assures them that their future with God is secure.**

**They are not being abandoned.
They are being prepared for a place in the Father's
presence.**



Preparing the Way

Jesus continues explaining His departure

² *There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?* ³*When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am.* ⁴*And you know the way to where I am going."*

John 14:3-4

His leaving is not a defeat. It is part of God's plan.

Through His death, resurrection, and ascension, Jesus opens the way for humanity to be reconciled to God.

The disciples cannot yet see it, but the cross will become the doorway to life.

There are many things we cannot see yet—yet this passage reminds us that God always has a plan—and He won't ever leave us behind!



Thomas Voices the Confusion

Thomas speaks honestly.

⁵ *“No, we don’t know, Lord,” Thomas said. “We have no idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?”*

John 14:5

**The disciples are still imagining a physical destination.
They think Jesus is describing a location.**

But Jesus is about to reveal something far more profound.

**The way to God is not a road.
It is a person.**



The Declaration

Jesus responds with one of the most important statements in the Gospel of John.

⁶ *Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.”*

John 14:5

This statement summarizes everything Jesus has been revealing throughout the Gospel.

He is not merely teaching about God.

He is revealing that **life with God is found only in Him.**



I Am the Way

When Jesus says “**I am the way,**” He is answering Thomas’ question.

In Scripture, “the way” refers to the path of life with God.

Jesus does not simply show people how to reach God.
He Himself is the path that leads to the Father.

Through His life, death, and resurrection, access to God is opened.



I Am the Truth

Jesus also declares:

“I am the truth.”

Truth is more than correct ideas.

Truth means the ultimate reality about God and the world.

Jesus perfectly reveals the character, will, and heart of the Father.

**To know Jesus is to know the truth
about who God is.**



I Am the Life

Jesus completes the statement:

“I am the life.”

Life in the Gospel of John refers to the fullness of life that comes from God.

**It is eternal life — not only life after death,
but life restored in relationship with the Creator.**

**Jesus is not merely a teacher of life.
He is the source of life itself.**



The Exclusive Claim

Jesus then speaks with unmistakable clarity.

“No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Jesus is not presenting Himself as one spiritual option among many.

He declares that reconciliation with God comes through Him alone.

**The invitation to know God is open to everyone.
But the way to the Father is only through Jesus.**



Why This Claim Matters

In every generation people search for meaning, truth, and spiritual fulfillment.

Many believe that all paths eventually lead to God.
Jesus says something different.

He claims that the way to the Father is not found through many roads.
It is found through one person-HIMSELF!

**The claim of Jesus is exclusive in its source —
but universal in its invitation.**



What This Claim Does — and Does Not Mean

Jesus is making a claim about who He is — not about the superiority of His followers.

Christians are not saved because they are better, wiser, or more moral than others.

The claim of Christianity is not that Christians are superior.
The claim is that **Jesus is uniquely able to reconcile humanity to God.**

This exclusivity points to the uniqueness of Christ, not the greatness of His followers.

The focus of the Gospel is not the greatness of saved. It is the greatness of the Savior.



Knowing Jesus Reveals the Father

Jesus continues:

⁷ If you had really known me, you would know who my Father is. From now on, you do know him and have seen Him!”

John 14:7

Jesus is not merely pointing people toward God.
He is revealing God—because He is God

The character of the Father becomes visible through the life of Jesus.

To encounter Jesus is to encounter the Living God.



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The Disciples Still Do Not Fully Understand

Even after Jesus explains this, the disciples are still struggling.

⁸ Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.”

John 14:8

Philip thinks they still need a separate revelation of God.

But Jesus has already been revealing the Father the entire time.

The disciples are looking for something new.

Jesus tells them they have already seen it.



Seeing Jesus Is Seeing the Father

Jesus answers Philip directly.

⁹ *Jesus replied, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don’t know who I am? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! So why are you asking me to show him to you?*

John 14:9

This is an **extraordinary** claim.

Jesus is not merely representing God.
He is not only a prophet pointing toward God.

*Jesus declares that **to see Him is to see the Father.***



The Unity of the Father and the Son

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10 Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I speak are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me.

John 14:10

This statement reveals the deep unity between Jesus and the Father.

The words Jesus speaks and the works He performs come from the Father.

The life of Jesus is the visible expression of the invisible God.

15 Christ is the visible image of the invisible God.

Colossians 1:15



The Works Reveal Who Jesus Is

Jesus points to the evidence of His ministry.

10 The words I speak are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me. 11 Just believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Or at least believe because of the work you have seen me do.

John 14:10b-11

The miracles, teachings, and authority of Jesus are not random acts.

They reveal that the Father is working through Him.

Jesus' works confirm His identity.

They show that the fullness of God Himself is present in Him.

Remember the purpose of the Gospel of John from Session 1:

31 But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name.

John 20:31



The Mission Continues

Jesus then makes a surprising promise.

12 “I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father. 13 You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. 14 Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it!”

John 14:12-14

Those who believe in Him will continue His work.

- The mission of Jesus will not end with His departure.
- Through the power of the Holy Spirit, His followers will carry that mission forward.
 - He will provide them with everything they need

The work of Jesus continues through us—the people of God.



Reflection Questions

1. Why were the disciples struggling to understand what Jesus was saying?
2. What does Jesus mean when He says that seeing Him is seeing the Father?
3. Why is it important that Jesus is not only the way to God but also the revelation of God?
4. What does trusting Jesus as the way, the truth, and the life look like in everyday life?



Key Takeaway

Jesus is not simply pointing people toward God.
He reveals God.

In Jesus we see:

- the way to the Father
- the truth about who God is
- the life that restores our relationship with Him

To encounter Jesus is to encounter the living God.

The invitation remains the same:

Will you trust Him and follow where He leads?

